

OPINION 887

BRYAXIS KUGELANN, 1794 (INSECTA, COLEOPTERA):
DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES UNDER THE PLENARY
POWERS

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers:

- (a) the specific name *schneideri* Kugelann, 1794, as published in the binomen *Bryaxis schneideri*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;
- (b) all designations of type-species for the nominal genus *Bryaxis* Kugelann, 1794, made prior to the present Ruling, are hereby set aside and the nominal species *Pselaphus bulbifer* Reichenbach, 1816, is hereby designated to be the type of that genus.

(2) The following generic names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *Bryaxis* Kugelann, 1794 (gender : masculine), type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1)(b) above, *Pselaphus bulbifer* Reichenbach, 1816 (Name No. 1848);
- (b) *Bythinus* Leach, 1817 (gender : masculine), type-species, by designation by Westwood, 1838, *Pselaphus securiger* Reichenbach, 1816 (Name No. 1849).

(3) The following specific names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *bulbifer* Reichenbach, 1816, as published in the binomen *Pselaphus bulbifer* (type-species of *Bryaxis* Kugelann, 1794) (Name No. 2312);
- (b) *securiger* Reichenbach, 1816, as published in the binomen *Pselaphus securiger* (type-species of *Bythinus* Leach, 1817) (Name No. 2313).

(4) The following generic names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *Bryaxis* Leach, 1817 (a junior homonym of *Bryaxis* Kugelann, 1794) (Name No. 1953);
- (b) *Arcopagus* Leach, 1817 (a junior objective synonym of *Bryaxis* Kugelann, 1794) (Name No. 1954);
- (c) *Bolbobythus* Raffray, 1904 (a junior objective synonym of *Bythinus* Leach, 1817) (Name No. 1955).

(5) The specific name *schneideri* Kugelann, 1794, as published in the binomen *Bryaxis schneideri* (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1)(a) above) is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 910.

HISTORY OF THE CASE (Z.N.(S.) 1642)

The present case was submitted to the office of the Commission by Dr. Claude Besuchet in March 1964. Dr. Besuchet's application was sent to the printer on 22 April 1966 and was published on 29 July 1966 in *Bull. zool.*

Nomencl. 23 : 114–116. Public Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the present case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the other prescribed serial publications (Constitution Art. 12b; *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 21 : 184) and to seven entomological serials.

Professor Mayr requested more information on the usage of *Bryaxis schneideri*, which Dr. Besuchet had proposed be suppressed. In reply Dr. Besuchet informed the Commission that *schneideri* is a *nomen oblitum*, never having been used since Kugelann's second description in 1798, except by Raffray, 1903, who placed it in the synonymy of *Pselaphus bulbifer* Reichenbach. *Pselaphus bulbifer* has been used for over 150 years for the species which is type of *Bryaxis*.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 27 February 1968 the Members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (68)7 either for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 23 : 115–116. At the close of the prescribed voting period on 27 May 1968, the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes—twenty-three (23), received in the following order: China, Holthuis, Mayr, Vokes, Melville, Boschma, Obruchev, Munroe, Brinck, Lemche, Starobogatov, Uchida, Jaczewski, Alvarado, Eisenmann, Tortonese, Binder, Evans, Simpson, Kraus, Bonnet, Mertens, Ride.

Negative votes—one (1): Sabrosky.

Voting Papers not returned—one (1): Forest.

Prof. A. do Amaral returned a late affirmative vote. In returning his negative vote, Dr. Sabrosky wrote as follows: "The generic names involved here are straightened out on the basis of strict priority. I see no reason why the specific names cannot be handled in the same way."

After the voting on Dr. Besuchet's proposals had been completed it was discovered that there is a defect in the designation of a type-species for *Rybaxis* Saulcy, 1876, which Dr. Besuchet had proposed for the Official List. Jeannel in 1950 designated *Pselaphus sanguineus* Fabricius as type of this genus, but Fabricius' usage of the name *sanguineus* proves to be a misidentification of *Staphylinus sanguineus* Linnaeus, a staphylinid of the genus *Aleochara*. The genus *Rybaxis* has therefore been withdrawn from the present Opinion and is the subject of another application published in this part (see p. 266).

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for names placed on Official Lists and Indexes by the Ruling given in the present Opinion:

- Arcopagus* Leach, 1817, *Zool. Miscell.* 3 : 80, 83
Bolbobythus Raffray, 1904, *Ann. Soc. ent. France* 73 : 255
bulbifer, *Pselaphus*, Reichenbach, 1816, *Mon. Pselaph.* : 37
Bryaxis Kugelann, 1794, *N. Mag. Lieb. Ent. von Schneider* 1 (5) : 580–582
Bryaxis Leach, 1817, *Zool. Miscell.* 3 : 81, 85
Bythinus Leach, 1817, *Zool. Miscell.* 3 : 80, 83
schneideri, *Bryaxis*, Kugelann, 1794, *N. Mag. Lieb. Ent. von Schneider* 1(5) : 580–582
securiger, *Pselaphus*, Reichenbach, 1816, *Mon. Pselaph.* : 45.

The following is the original reference for the designation of a type-species for a genus concerned in the present Ruling:

For *Bythinus* Leach, 1817 : Westwood, 1838, *Introd. mod. Classif. Ins.*, Generic Synopsis : 21

CERTIFICATE

We certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (68)7 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that Voting Paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 887.

R. V. MELVILLE
Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

W. E. CHINA
Assistant Secretary

London
13 March 1969